

Message Text

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NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 HA-05 /081 W

-----106177 041815Z /41

O R 041645Z APR 78

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7506

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 5 JOHANNESBURG 0869

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SOPN, SF

SUBJECT: PRESS CONFERENCE APRIL 4 OF AMBASSADOR MCHENRY

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN BY
AMBASSADOR DONALD MCHENRY AT JAN SMUTS AIRPORT APRIL 4, 1978,
PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR WINDHOEK: QUOTE: BEGIN TEXT:

Q. MR. MCHENRY COULD YOU GIVE US AN INDICATION OF THE PURPOSE
OF YOUR PRESENT TOUR?

A. WELL AS YOU KNOW, I WAS IN WEST AFRICA WITH THE PRESIDENT ON
HIS VISIT TO NIGERIA. I WANTED TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY OF
BEING, IN A SENSE, THIS CLOSE TO COME DOWN TO SOUTH AFRICA AND
ALSO TO NAMIBIA, PARTICULARLY SINCE IN MY JUDGEMENT WE ARE
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REACHING THE POINT WHERE IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO HAVE
AS WIDE AN INDICATION OF THE REACTIONS AND CONCERNS ABOUT
THE PROPOSALS WHICH THE 5 COUNTRIES PRESENTED EITHER LAST
WEEK OR THE WEEK BEFORE.

Q. WHY DO YOU REGARD IT AS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE NOW?

A. WELL I THINK THEY ARE, AS YOU KNOW, WHAT PROPOSALS WHICH WE HAVE CLARIFIED; THEY ARE NOT THE FIRST STAGE THESE ARE OUR CONSIDERED JUDGEMENTS ON THE BASIS OF A SETTLEMENT AND THEREFORE IT IS AT A POINT WHERE WE BELIEVE WE HAVE TRIED TO CONSIDER THE VARIOUS VIEWS WHICH HAVE BEEN PRESENTED AND THEY ARE INCORPORATED IN THOSE PROPOSALS.

Q. MR. MCHENRY BIG NEWS IN SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS MEDIA TODAY IS THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAS JUST ISSUED A SERIOUS WARNING TO SOUTH AFRICA THAT SHE WILL HAVE TO FACE THE CONSEQUENCES, AS HE PUT IT, IF SHE REFUSES UNITED NATIONS SUPERVISION, OF AN ELECTION IN THE TERRITORY AND ALSO IF SHE DOESN'T ALLOW SWAPO TO TAKE PART IN THE ELECTION. NOW SINCE WHEN HAS SOUTH AFRICA BEEN OPPOSED TO THESE THINGS?

A. WELL I MUST IF I MIGHT SAY YOU HAVE TAKEN A COMMENT AND SLIGHTLY TWISTED IT. I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE PRESIDENT SAID AND I DON'T KNOW THAT HE HAS MEANT TO IMPLY THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS OPPOSED TO THOSE THINGS. THE QUESTION WHICH IS ALWAYS BEEN IMPORTANT HAS BEEN ELECTIONS UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS, AND WE HAVE HAD A YEAR OF DISCUSSIONS ON WHAT CONDITIONS, AND I THINK THAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING.

Q. I AM REFERRING TO THIS BECAUSE THIS IS ANOTHER WARNING WHICH HAS BEEN ISSUED TO SOUTH AFRICA, ANOTHER CRITICISM OF SOUTH AFRICA. I THINK THE PEOPLE HERE ARE WONDERING WHY IT IS UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS ALWAYS CRITICIZED AND NEVER SWAPO?

A. WELL AGAIN, I DON'T KNOW THE NATURE OF THE STATEMENT. I WOULDN'T INTERPRET WHAT YOU HAVE JUST SAID AS A WARNING. I THINK IT IS A STATEMENT OF THE FACTS OF THE SITUATION, THAT THERE IS CONCERN THAT WE HAVE TO REACH A SETTLEMENT OF THIS PARTICULAR SITUATION, AND THAT WE HAVE TO DO SO UNDER CONDITIONS WHICH ARE ACCEPTABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA AND WHICH ARE THUS ACCEPTABLE TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. I DON'T BELIEVE THAT WHAT YOU READ IN ANY EVENT IS AN INDICATION OF ONE SIDED CRITICISM, AS YOUR QUESTION SEEMS TO IMPLY.

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CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

Q. IN OTHER WORDS SOUTH AFRICA HAS NOT INDICATED THAT SWAPO
CANNOT TAKE PART IN AN ELECTION?

A. WELL, SOUTH AFRICA HAS INDICATED IN OUR DISCUSSIONS THAT UNDER
THE TERMS OF THE PROPOSALS WHICH WE ARE TALKING ABOUT THAT ALL
WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THAT ELECTION. NOW THAT ASSUMES THAT THE
ENTIRE PROPOSAL IS GOING TO BE ACCEPTED, AND IF THE ENTIRE
PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTED THEN THE CONDITIONS FOR AN ELECTIONS SEEMS
TO ME WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. BUT IT IS NEVER BEEN A QUESTION OF
JUST ELECTIONS. ONE CAN HAVE ELECTIONS WHICH ARE MEANINGLESS.
ONE HAS TO HAVE ELECTIONS WHICH ARE FREE AND FAIR AND WHERE THE
CONDITIONS ARE SUCH THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY AND THE
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ARE SATISFIED THAT THE PEOPLE HAVE
HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES, AND THAT THEY HAVE
HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES UNDER CONDITIONS OF
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FREEDOM AND THAT THEY HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THEM-
SELVES ON A RANGE OF CHOICES RATHER THAN TO BE LIMITED.

Q. MR. MCHENRY, THESE NEW PROPOSALS, DO THEY IN ANY WAY SATISFY
OR DO AWAY WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN OR THE SOUTH WEST AFRICAN
FEAR THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN SECURITY FORCES WOULD BE NEUTRALIZED
AND THAT SWAPO IN THE RUN-UP TO ELECTIONS WOULD HAVE FREE
REIGN TO TERRORIZE AND INTIMIDATE THE PEOPLE?

A. WELL, I DON'T THINK THAT THE PROPOSALS IN EITHER THE PRELIMIN-

ARY VERSION OR IN THEIR FINAL VERSION WOULD CARRY THE CONCERN WHICH YOUR QUESTION IMPLIES. WE ARE JUST AS CONCERNED THAT ELECTIONS TAKE PLACE UNDER CONDITIONS OF SECURITY, AS WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THE ELECTIONS BE FREE AND FAIR. ONE CANNOT HAVE FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS, IT SEEMS TO ME, IF THEY ARE UNDER CONDITIONS WHERE ONE PARTY OR ANOTHER IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE SECURITY SITUATION. WHAT WE WANT IS A SITUATION WHERE SECURITY IS GUARANTEED BUT WHERE THE SECURITY IN A SENSE IS NEUTRAL AND WHERE THE SECURITY IN AND OF ITSELF BECOME NEUTRAL AND WHERE THE SECURITY IDOES NOT IN AND OF ITSELF BECOME AN INTIMIDATING FACTOR IN THE ELECTION. I BELIEVE THAT OUR DISCUSSIONS AND THE PROPOSALS TAKE CARE OF THAT POINT BUT EACH PERSON AND EACH INDIVIDUAL WILL HAVE TO REACH HIS OWN CONCLUSION ON THAT AND I THINK IT'S GOING TO BE NECESSARY IN DOING SO, PERHAPS TO OVERCOME FEARS, SOME JUSTIFIED, SOME UNJUSTIFIED, WHICH MAY EXIST AT THIS POINT.

Q. SPEAKING ABOUT FEARS, I THINK WHAT PEOPLE ARE WONDERING HERE, CAN YOU THINK OF A SINGLE REASON WHY MR. SAM NUJOMA SHOULD WANT TO RISK FREE AND DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS. AFTER ALL, HE HAS THE SUPPORT OF POWERFUL RUSSIA, HE HAS THE SUPPORT OF THE FRONT LINE STATES, HE SEEMS TO HAVE NO SHORTAGE OF FUNDS, THE WESTERN POWERS ARE NOT REALLY OUT TO CRITIZE HIM, SO WHY RISK HIS FUTURE IN AN ELECTION WHICH HE MAY LOSE, AND THEN

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HE'S NOTHING?

A. WELL LET ME SAY AGAIN, I DON'T LIKE ANSWERING LOADED QUESTIONS AND YOUR QUESTIONS ARE LOADED AND YOU CARRY SOME IMPLICATIONS IN THEM WHICH I DON'T ACCEPT. SO I'LL (BUT IT'S LOADED) HAVE TO BACK-TRACK IN ORDER TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION AND TO ANSWER IT OBJECTIVELY. IN THE FIRST PLACE WE ARE NOT TALKING ABOUT ELECTIONS WHERE THERE IS ONLY ONE PARTY. THERE ARE MANY PARTIES TO THIS. SWAPO IS ONE PARTY AND THERE ARE, AS YOU KNOW, ANY NUMBER OF PARTIES. OUR EFFORT IS TO HAVE ELECTIONS IN WHICH ALL THE NAMIBIANS HAVE A FAIR OPPORTUNITY IN THOSE ELECTIONS. THAT IS WHETEHR ONE IS TALKING ABOUT THE DTA OR SAM NUJOMA OR THE NNF OR ANY NUMBER OF OTHER POLITICAL ENTITIES. WHY SHOULD ANY OF THEM WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN FREE ELECTIONS. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE FIRST...(INTERRUPTED)

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CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

Q. JUST A MOMENT BECAUSE I WANT TO ELUIDATE ON THIS. MR.
SAM NUJOMA HAS SAID IN A SINGLE INTERVIEW THAT HE IS AGAINST
MAJORITY RULE, HE IS A REVOLUTIONARY, HE WANTS TO SEIZE POWER,
AND HE REGARDS THE TURNHALLE SUPPORTERS AS TRAITORS. IN OTHER
WORDS OPPONENTS OF SWAPO HE REGARDS AS TRAITORS AND THEY
MUST BE DEALT WITH.

A. I, AGAIN YOU DON'T ALLOW IN YOUR QUESTIONS DIFFERENCES ON
WHAT IS OR IS NOT BEING SAID. I ASSUME YOU ARE REFERRING
TO AN INTERVIEW WHICH SABC CARRIED WITH NUJOMA.

Q. THAT'S RIGHT.

A. I DON'T KNOW WHAT SAM NUJOMA SAID. I HAVE SEEN THE TEXT...
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Q. WHERE YOU NOT INTERESTED?

A. I AM VERY INTERESTED IN ANYTHING HAVING TO DO WITH NAMIBIA.

Q. WHY WASN'T THAT CRITICIZED THE WAY VORSTER WOULD BE
CRITICIZED IF HE SAID THE SAME THING?

A. I DON'T OFTEN ENGAGE IN CRITICISM WHEN I DON'T KNOW WHAT

WAS SAID. I SAW THE TEXT. I KNOW THAT JOURNALISM IS JOURNALISM
WHETHER ONE IS TALKING ABOUT THE WRITTEN PRESS
OR THE VIDEO MEDIA. I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE SAID. I DON'T KNOW
THE CONTEXT. I THINK THAT OUR CONCERN AND MY CONCERN IS THAT
WE ARE TALKING ABOUT PROPOSALS ON THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION 385. WE HAVE TALKED WITH SOUTH AFRICA ABOUT THOSE
PROPOSALS. WE HAVE TALKED WITH ALL THE PARTIES ABOUT THOSE
PROPOSALS UNDER THAT RESOLUTION. NOW THAT RESOLUTION CALLS FOR
FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS, AND I WOULD ASSUME THAT ANYONE WHO PARTICIPATES IN THAT AND ANY AGREEMENT WHICH IS MADE UNDER THAT, WOULD BE CARRIED OUT AND CERTAINLY THAT WOULD BE THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES. THAT WOULD BE THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS. NOW I WANT TO GO BACK TO ONE OF YOUR PREVIOUS QUESTIONS WHICH YOUR QUESTION KEPT ME FROM ANSWERING, AND IT IS NAME A SINGLE REASON WHY, I THINK YOU SAID SAM NUJOMA, WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ELECTIONS. HIS POSITION AS STATED TO US IS THAT HE ACCEPTS THE IDEA OF ELECTIONS. MY TASK IS NOT TO DEFEND SAM NUJOMA OR TO DEFEND ANY OF THE PARTIES. BUT I WOULD SAY THAT IF ONE WANTS A LASTING SETTLEMENT, NOT A TEMPORARY SETTLEMENT, NOT A CALCULATED RISK, IF ONE WANTS A LASTING SETTLEMENT TO THE NAMIBIA SITUATION, AND ONE WANTS TO EXCLUDE THE KINDS OF INFLUENCES WHILE YOU REFERRED TO IN YOUR QUESTION THEN IT SEEMS TO ME THAT IT IS BETTER TO GO THROUGH THE ELECTION PROCESS, AND IT IS BETTER TO DO SO UNDER CONDITIONS WHERE ALL OF

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THE PEOPLE ARE CONVINCED THAT THE PROCESS IS FAIR AND THAT THEY HAVE HAD A FAIR AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN THAT ELECTION. IT IS UNDER THOSE CONDITIONS, IT SEEMS TO ME, THAT THE OUTCOME OF AN ELECTION IS LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTED BY THE PEOPLE AND SUPPORTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

Q. MR. MCHENRY, SOMETHING ELSE ON WALVIS BAY AND THAT IS NOW SWAPO IS NOW INSISTING THAT WALVIS BAY BE HANDED OVER TO SOUTH WEST AFRICA PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE. WOULD THE WEST BE INSISTING ON THIS BEFORE HAND AS WELL?

A. WELL, WE'VE HAD SOME DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WITH PARTIES ON WALVIS BAY AND I THINK YOU HAVE SEEN THE STATEMENTS WHICH I HAVE MADE ON THE QUESTION OF WALVIS BAY. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THAT IS AN ISSUE WHICH CAN BE DEALT WITH IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS. THAT IS A POSITION WHICH WE HAVE STATED TO ALL OF THE PARTIES AND IT IS ONE WHICH WE ARE PREPARED TO REAFFIRM. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT IT CAN BE SETTLED IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS. IT IS A CONTENTIOUS ISSUE, THERE ARE VARIOUS VIEWS ON IT. I WOULD RATHER GET THE QUESTION OF THE MANDATED NAMIBIA OUT OF THE WAY FIRST.

Q. MR. MCHENRY THERE HAVE BEEN MANY REPORTS ABOUT WHAT THE LATEST PROPOSALS CONTAIN DOWN HERE, REPORTS IN SOUTH AFRICA

SAYING THAT THEY REALLY DON'T CONTAIN ANY SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES FROM THEIR LAST PROPOSALS. ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME WE GOT SOME OFFICIAL WORD, PERHAPS FROM YOU RIGHT NOW, AS TO WHAT IS IN THE PROPOSALS THAT ARE THE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION?

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CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

A. WELL I THINK VERY SHORTLY, I HOPE VERY SHORTLY, AFTER WE HAVE HAD A CHANCE TO LET THE PARTIES STUDY THESE PROPOSALS, THEY WILL BE MADE PUBLIC. TO SAY THAT THERE IS NOTHING NEW IN THEM, I THINK IS INCORRECT. ON THE OTHER HAND, I DON'T WANT TO ENCOURAGE EXPECTATIONS. WE NEVER SAID THAT WE WOULD DO ANYTHING MORE THAN CLARIFY THE INITIAL PROPOSALS AND THERE ARE SOME CLARIFICATIONS IN THERE. IN ADDITION WE HAVE HAD VERY LONG DISCUSSIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICAN OFFICIALS OVER THE LAST TWO MONTHS AND WE HAVE HAD VERY LONG DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER PARTIES, DURING THAT SAME PERIOD OF TIME. I UNDERSTAND THE CONCERN ABOUT THE PROPOSALS AND I WOULD HOPE THAT WE VERY SHORTLY CAN MAKE THEM PUBLIC. THOUGH I MUST SAY THAT MY EXPERIENCE IS THAT WE NEVER KEEP ANYTHING AWAY FROM THE JOURNALIST COMMUNITY AND THERE ARE COPIES OF THAT PROPOSAL FLOATING AROUND AMONG THE JOURNALISTS.

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Q. SIR, HOW CLOSE ARE YOU NOW TO A SETTLEMENT. ARE YOU VERY OPTIMISTIC, AND HOW MANY MAJOR QUESTIONS REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED?

A. WELL, I DON'T WANT TO USE THE TERM OPTIMISTIC OR PESSIMISTIC ON THIS. I WOULD SAY THAT WE ARE AT A POINT WHERE IF THERE IS THE POLITICAL WILL, THERE IS A BASIS FOR SETTLEMENT AND THAT WHAT IS NEEDED NOW IS THE POLITICAL WILL TO TAKE THE DECISIONS TO SETTLE. THERE WILL ALWAYS BE, IN THE MINDS OF ALL THE PARTIES, QUESTIONS AS TO WHETHER THERE OUGHT TO BE ONE MORE CHANGE HERE, ONE MORE CHANGE THERE. BUT IT SEEMS TO ME WE ARE AT A POINT WHERE THE DISTANCE IS SUFFICIENTLY SHORT THAT A SETTLEMENT CAN BE TAKEN.

Q. ARE YOU GOING TO BE ATTENDING THE FUNERAL OF CHIEF CLEMENS KAPUUNO?

A. I WILL NOT BE ATTENDING, BUT I WILL MAKE A CALL ON HIS FAMILY.

Q. DO YOU THINK HIS DEATH HAS HAMPERED THE NEGOTIATIONS OR THE PROCESS?

A. I THINK HIS DEATH IS AN UNFORTUNATE AND DEPLORABLE OCCURRENCE. NAMIBIA HAS, AS I THINK THE SECRETARY OF STATE INDICATED, NEED OF ALL ITS LEADERS. IT CERTAINLY DOES NOT HELP OUR NEGOTIATIONS AT ALL.

Q. SIR, THE PRESS IS TALKING HERE ABOUT A DEADLINE WHICH IS THE BEGINNING OF A UNITED NATIONS DEBATE ON NAMIBIA. BY THEN, SOME RESOLUTION, EITHER AN ACCEPTANCE OF AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SOLUTION OR AN INTERNAL SOLUTION MUST BE TAKEN. DO YOU SEE THAT ALSO AS A DEADLINE?

A. WELL, I DON'T SEE IT NECESSARILY AS A DEADLINE. BUT I DO
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SEE THAT AND EVENTS SUCH AS WAS CITED IN THE PREVIOUS QUESTION AS ADDITIONAL COMPLICATING FACTORS AND THIS IS ALWAYS THE SITUATION WHEN YOU ARE ENGAGED IN NEGOTIATIONS OF COMPLEX SITUATIONS. YOU ALWAYS WANT A SETTLEMENT BEFORE THERE ARE ANY MORE COMPLICATIONS TO YOUR ALREADY COMPLICATED SITUATION. I WOULD PREFER THAT WE HAVE A SETTLEMENT THIS AFTERNOON IF I COULD GET IT.

Q. WHO WILL YOU BE SEEING IN WINDHOEK AND IN CAPE TOWN?

A. I THINK I CANNOT SPEAK TO THAT SPECIFICALLY BECAUSE I HAVE NOT REALLY GONE OVER THE ENTIRE PROGRAM. I KNOW WHAT I ASKED FOR, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT I HAVE ENDED UP WITH.

Q. IF SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD DECIDE TO GO IT ALONE AND NOT ACCEPT THE WESTERN PROPOSALS, WHAT WILL THE CONSEQUENCES BE FOR SOUTH AFRICA AND FOR NAMIBIA?

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CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

A. WELL, THAT'S ONE OF THOSE HYPOTHETICAL QUESTIONS THAT DIPLOMATS ARE TAUGHT NOT TO GET INVOLVED IN. I DON'T CARE TO GET INTO THAT KIND OF SITUATION. I WOULD SAY THIS, THAT WE HAVE ALREADY SEEN THAT THE SITUATION IN THESE TERRITORIES, WHETHER IT WAS ANGOLA, MOZAMBIQUE OR RHODESIA, THAT THAT SITUATION DETERIORATES, THAT THAT WHICH ONE DAY MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE BASIS OF A COMPROMISE THE NEXT DAY BECOMES A NON-NEGOTIABLE DEMAND, THAT THOSE PERSONS WHO AT ONE TIME WERE AROUND AND WERE WILLING TO BE FORTHCOMING ARE REPLACED BY PEOPLE WHO MAY BE LESS FORTHCOMING AND LESS WILLING, OR EVEN THE PERSONS EVEN IF THEY AREN'T REPLACED, THE SAME PEOPLE TEND TO CHANGE THEIR VIEWS. SO, IT DOES SEEM TO ME THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF SETTLING THIS QUESTION

IS ONE WHICH IS WITH US AND WITH US NOW, AND IT IS THE SITUATION
ON THE GROUND WHICH I AM MORE CONCERNED ABOUT RATHER THAN
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WHAT IS OR IS NOT GOING TO HAPPEN IN SOUTH AFRICA. WE OUGHT
TO BE CONCERNED WITH THE SETTLEMENT AND NOT SO MUCH WHAT WE
ARE GOING TO DO IF THERE ISN'T A SETTLEMENT.

Q. HAVE YOU HAD ANY INDICATION FROM SWAPO AS TO WHETHER THEY WILL
ACCEPT THE LATEST PROPOSALS THAT HAVE BEEN FINALIZED BY THE FIVE
WESTERN POWERS?

A. NO, NOT AT THIS STAGE, NOR HAVE WE HAD ANY INDICATION FROM
THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVT. THE PARTIES HAVE JUST GOTTEN THE PROPOSALS
SHORTLY AND I THINK FRANKLY, ITS ENCOURAGING THAT THEY HAVE
NOT RUSHED TO STATE THEIR VIEWS.

Q. WOULD YOU BE EXPECTING TO GO TO LUSAKA AFTER CAPE TOWN?

A. NO, I HAVE TO GET BACK TO NEW YORK AS SOON AS I CAN.
THE UNITED STATES HAPPENS TO BE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY
COUNCIL THIS MONTH AND THAT LIMITS MY TRAVEL. IN ADDITION
I HAVE A COUPLE OF CHILDREN WHO TOLD ME THAT IF I DON'T
GET BACK BY A CERTAIN DATE I MIGHT AS WELL NOT COME BACK.

Q. WHY WERE YOU CALLED IN AT THIS LAST MINUTE? IS IT
BECAUSE THE PROPOSALS ARE RUNNING INTO DIFFICULTIES AND THEY
THINK THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE THEM AN EXTRA PUSH OVER
THE HILL.

A. I WOULDN'T SAY I WAS CALLED IN. I THINK I EXPLAINED
THE BASIS OF MY BEING HERE AT THIS TIME. I WAS TRAVELING
WITH THE PRESIDENT AND HAD TO COME AS FAR AS LAGOS AND I
THOUGHT IT WAS A GOOD TIME TO BOTH TALK WITH PEOPLE
HERE, THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR AND THE OTHER FOUR
WESTERN AMBASSADORS AND WITH GOVT OFFICIALS. AND THEN AS
YOU KNOW DURING THE NEGOTIATION OF THESE PROPOSALS I HAVE
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TRIED TO BOTH STAY AWAY FROM NAMIBIA AND FRANKLY ALSO STAY
AWAY FROM THE PRESS. BUT NOW THE NEGOTIATIONS AND THE
PROPOSALS HAVE ENTERED A NEW STAGE AND I THINK SOME OF THOSE
RESTRICTIONS HAVE BEEN REMOVED.

Q. THANK YOU, MR. AMBASSADOR

END QUOTE.

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Message Attributes

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Secure: OPEN
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